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Triem Industrial Building Operations

ILL. E.P.A. - D.L.P.C.
STATE OF ILLINOIS

26th & State Street - P. O. Box 578 - Chicago Heights, Illinois 60411

Phone:
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July 7, 1977

Mr. Michael J. Schmitt, Engineer
Division of Water Pollution Control
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Suite 1205, Intercontinental Center
1701 First Ave.
Maywood, Ill. 60153

REFERENCE

9

SITE NAME

TRIEM STEEL

SITE ID

ILD001744572

Re: Permit #1972-5
Cook County - No. 03104505
Chicago Heights/Triem

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

Thank you and Mr. Kenneth Bechely for the time you extended to me, Mr. George Ranney, our engineer, and our landfill manager, Mr. Clayton Wasserott at our office on June 28, 1977.

I think it was exceedingly helpful to all concerned for us to have an opportunity to understand what function the small runoff water holding pond located in the southwest corner of our property really serves.

The pond collects all the roof water off Triem Steel's service center and steel storage warehouses, the Gooder-Henrichsen and Sauk Steel plants, also surface water running off of Bloom Sanitary District's property to the south of us, all the surface water that runs off our driveway and parking lot in the drain tiles that drain into this pond. There are also one or two drain tiles coming from the fields to the south of us that run into this pond sometime after a heavy rain, as well as all the water from the C. & E. I. and Missouri-Pacific railroad tracks. Since this is the lowest point in this area all the natural runoff water seems to pitch to this pond, as Mr. George Ranney, our engineer, indicates in his plans that he drew after he made a survey of the area.

As this water accumulates in this pond it seldom gets more than a few feet deep and very soon after a heavy rain it dissipates into the old filled area to the north of the pond. This has been effectively working for the 31 years that we have owned the property and also it served as the drainage system for all these facilities since 1900, when the National Brick Company owned it.

Mr. Michael J. Schmitt

July 7, 1977

As you know, on February 16, 1973, we received supplemental permit #1973-7 with no expiration date, from the Environmental Protection Agency, for the purpose of disposing of our spent pickle liquor in a different manner than we are now. Since we have changed our method of disposing of this spent pickle liquor, as you suggested, we are going to proceed to obtain the necessary permit to continue to dispose of this spent pickle liquor as we have been for the past 31 years, which is outlined as follows, and we would appreciate it if you would send us the necessary forms and information to accomplish this.

In approximately 1975 we installed a large underground steel storage or holding tank; this steel tank is lined with rubber inside and out and is also lined with brick in the inside.

The small stream that runs into the pond is for the most part clear water as it is an overflow from our water rinse tank. When we remove a rack of sheet steel from the pickle liquor we rinse it in clear water before we neutralize it in our neutralizing tank. When these tanks are emptied, anywhere from two weeks to one month, depending on how much steel we have to run, the procedure is as follows: first we empty the pickle liquor then we empty the neutralizer and then we empty the water after that. When this is mixed with all the aforementioned runoff water there is only a very little trace of pickle liquor left, if any.

Also, as we have discussed in our meeting, this particular pond is 20 feet deeper than any of the surrounding area. It has a solid clay wall directly to the west of it about 200 to 300 feet wide with railroad tracks on it, which have been there for almost 100 years, and approximately 50 feet west from the railroad tracks there is a stream of water running which is 20 feet higher than our pond. Then directly to the north of the pond we have 26th Street, which is also at least 20 feet higher than our pond and is a paved highway on a solid clay bank, which has also been there for almost 100 years. To the east of us we have State Street, which is a paved, county highway, over 100 feet wide on top of a solid clay wall. To the south of us, as outlined previously in our letter, all the water pitches to the pond and since we have no ditches or tile of any kind running from our property there is no way that any of this runoff water can escape from our property.

Finally, as we outlined to you in my office, since the natural gas is in such short supply and due to this many large plants were closed down last winter and small and medium plants as our were threatened to close, and the gas company is again warning against a shortage, we are considering going to the expense of

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adding an additional methane gas burner directly to the north of the pond, from which we intend to collect the methane gas along with the gas from our other burners. This gas will have to be run through scrubbers to take out the particulates and through another method to remove the moisture - it then can be burned to conserve energy, instead of natural gas. We have been working with several firms who have successfully accomplished this.

Yours very truly,

TRIEM INDUSTRIAL BUILDING OPERATIONS



Leonard C. Triem
Owner

LCT:bhp

cc: Mr. Kenneth Bechely
Mr. George Ranney

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